Wingham, Sept 9, 1841.

My dear Caroline,

I have just unsealed and read a letter directed to you, that I sent more than two months ago, but by some unaccountable mistake, it did not reach you, & I found it at Mrs. White's last week & brought it home. But the loss of the letter was nothing to you. I may have lost a visit by its being miss-sent, for the main point of the contents were to induce you to pass the fourth of July with us. You know that there was a Temperance celebration at Weymouth, & I thought you could come from Boston here, and pass Sat. & Sun. and we could ~~pass~~ convey you to W. on Monday. It was a capital plan, and finely arranged in my mind, but it all went wrong. The letter went wrong, the celebration was in the wrong part of Weymouth, and they had the wrong Orator. And from that time to this, I have hoped every week to see or hear from you, although I had no right to expect it, for your hands have been full and your heart too.

The interesting meetings that you have had with your long absent friends, must have taken your time and your thoughts very much, & then I see by the Liberator that you have been full of Anti Slavery business, this summer, & now that your and our vacation is passed, I can hardly conjecture "when we three shall meet again." We passed the first week of our vacation at home. Last week we went to Providence & attended the Commencement, made a visit at Mr. Edmund Quincy's on our return and

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spent one day in Boston. I have missed so many times of seeing you this summer, that I don't know but Providence has quite taken up the matter. I was exceedingly disappointed that we could not go to Norfolk Co. meeting at Weymouth, but we were then in the midst of preparation for a temperance tea party. Some of the Resolutions there discussed, I think are as important and involve as much or more than any that have ever come before Abolitionists. But who are sufficient for these things? Where will you find Abolitionists, who will come out as a body, and leave their pro Slavery minister and churches? I have rejoiced that we have not got the trial here, that we have an Anti Slavery Pastor. But I believe I may not flatter myself with escaping the ordeal, for we have a strong pro-Slavery church, and the negro pews; & our building is closed against Anti slavery and all other reformers. I do not feel quite sure that Abolitionists ought to come out in this way yet. I do feel, however, that this movement if general would make such a shaking among the churches as has never been felt before since the days of Cotton Mather, here in New England. I think the Abolitionists of New Hampshire are about ripe for it. What a bold stand they are taking there for the right.

Mrs. Ordway dined with us to day. You know her business. I could not do much for her. I do not want the paper. We have as many reform papers to read now as I can attend to, and the prince of the whole is the Plain Speaker. Do you ever see it?

I am very much interested in Mr. Parker just now and the treatment that he is receiving from liberal christians. He has preached here once this summer & I was delighted with him. We hope to get him to deliver his course of Lectures in Hingham. Anna Thaxter and a few others are very earnest to have him come, although the New views do not find much favor with our staid, old fashioned population. They are fearful that even giving up mine at the Communion is leading on towards Transcendentalism. What an interesting paper the Standard is this summer. I think Mrs. Childs has found her appropriate sphere. What a correct portrait she has drawn in her last of Edward Everett. I thought of you when I read it the days when you were given to Hero Worship, of the same character. Poor Edward Everett! he little thought when he wrote that last letter to the abolitionists that it would keep him from the Court of St. James. How is your brother Chapman now. I was distressed to learn that he had had another return of bleeding. Will they be obliged to leave our climate this winter? How are your sisters & Aunt Mary? and how do you feel about the Anti Slavery Fair? Can you not come down for one short sunday this autumn and answer me these questions and a thousand others. Maria has gone to Duxbury to visit the Bradfords. Mr Smith has been sick but is now convalescent. Do write to me soon if you can spare the time. Yours truly and sincerely

Celina A. S. Smith.

Miss Caroline Weston

Roxbury

Mass.

MS. A. 9. 2. 15. 44